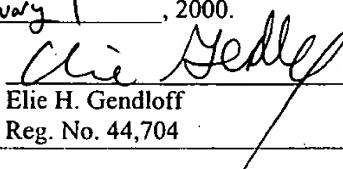
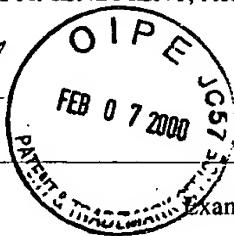


CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to BOX NON FEE AMENDMENT, Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on February 1, 2000.



Elie H. Gendloff
Reg. No. 44,704



In re Application of: Johnson et al.

Serial No.: 09/220,617

Filed: December 24, 1998

For: Persephin and Related Growth Factors

Examiner: Unknown

Group Art Unit 1645

FEB 10 2000
TECH CENTER 1600/2900

BOX NON FEE AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, D.C. 20231

AMENDMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Transmitted herewith is a Preliminary Amendment in the above-identified application.

	CLAIMS REMAINING AFTER AMENDMENT	HIGHEST NO. PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	PRESENT EXTRA	RATE	ADDED FEE
TOTAL	20	20	0	\$18.00	\$.00
INDEP.	3	3	0	\$78.00	\$.00
TOTAL FEES FOR ADDITIONAL CLAIMS					\$.00

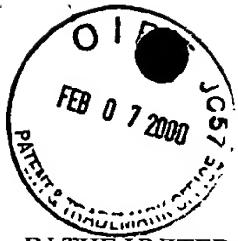
- If an extension or an additional extension of time is required, but is not enclosed, please consider this a conditional petition therefor and charge Deposit Account 18-1829 accordingly.
- No additional fee is required.
- Please charge any deficiencies or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account 18-1829. A duplicate copy of this sheet is attached.

Respectfully submitted,



Elie H. Gendloff
Reg. No. 44,704
Howell & Haferkamp, L.C.
7733 Forsyth Boulevard, Suite 1400
St. Louis, Missouri 63105
(314) 727-5188

February 1, 2000



HHS
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

St. Louis, Missouri
February 1, 2000

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BOX NON FEE AMENDMENT
Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

This paper is submitted as a Preliminary Amendment in the above application. It is respectfully requested that the following amendment be entered as indicated below.

Please cancel claims 1, 26 and 31 without prejudice or disclaimer.

14 (Amended) An isolated and purified nucleic acid molecule or nucleic acid molecule complementary thereto comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a [growth factor of claim 1] persephin polypeptide or a fragment of said nucleotide sequence consisting of at least 15 [contiguous] nucleotides, wherein the persephin polypeptide